

A warm welcome to

The Parish of Christ Church, Lancaster

Sunday 29th September - Harvest Festival

Vicar: Revd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105

1 East Road, Lancaster, LA1 3EE

www.christchurchlancaster.org.uk Facebook: @ChristChurchLancaster



a vibrant, inclusive
worshipping
community

**Everyone is welcome to join us
in worship this week:**

Today - 29th Harvest

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Parish Eucharist*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

*With thanks to Archdeacon David for
covering our services today.*

Tuesday

5pm *Evening Prayer*

Via Zoom (see notice)

Wednesday

5.30pm *Meditation and*

6pm *Evening Prayer*

Friday

9.30am *Holy Communion*

Sunday 6th October

8.30am *Holy Communion*

10.30am *Parish Eucharist*

12.30pm *Baptism*

6pm *Taize Eucharist*

Prayer for this week

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the
land, the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the
harvest, may we cherish and
respect this planet
and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



Children's Church

welcomes primary-aged children during
the 10.30am service during term time.
Parents/guardians are also welcome to
join in. Please see back-page notice.

Godly Play - 20th October

Every 3rd Sunday of the month at 4pm
in Church for KS1/2 children.



Please ask the Stewards for directions and assistance.

Please send items for inclusion in this newsletter to Jacqueline Stamper by Thursday lunchtime. Many thanks.

Please remember in your prayers:



Those who are sick:

Youngblood McCray, Thomas Platt, Yan Connell, David Foster, Susanna Michaelis, Lucas Calvert, Ron Holmes, Ann Boss, Geoffrey Heywood, Christine McCrann, Steve Wilkinson, Richard Jones, Ella.

that God's healing, wholeness and peace are with them.

Those preparing for Baptism:

Joseph Mooney

may they grow in faith and shine as lights in the world

Those preparing for marriage:

Georgia Walker and Matthew Atkinson

that God will bless them in their new life together.

Those who have died recently:

Diana Doren-Dean, Mike Seed, Betty Jones, Jane Cross.

may they rest in peace and rise in glory.

In our parish, we ask God to bless and provide:

For those who live and work on Parker Street, Davidson Street.

For those working in the food industry, whether on land or sea.

For those preparing for confirmation.

that God's loving kindness is found and shared.

Tuesday Evening Prayer

At 5pm each Tuesday, Rev'd Carol and Rev'd Kaarina say Evening Prayer over Zoom. If you'd like to join them to give thanks for the day past, readings from the Scriptures and prayer, the details are: Meeting ID: 806 945 9310 Passcode 942105

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8069459310?pwd=cVJlZDlnNXF2dDVFVWThVa0Z0VWE5dz09>

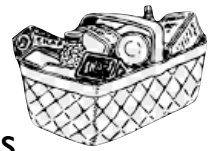
Taizé Eucharist - 6th October

On the first Sunday of every month at 6pm, there is a beautiful service of prayer, music and stillness in the style of the Taizé Community. If you'd like to join the music group (singing or instrumental), the rehearsal starts at 4.30pm. Do see Julian if you'd be interested.

Meeting Up.

The clergy are available for pastoral support and spiritual direction, so please don't hesitate to be in contact. If you or someone you know is going through a difficult time or is seriously ill, please let us know as soon as possible, to arrange prayers, home communion, a hospital visit, or anointing of the sick. If you would like us to pray for you, or for someone you know, for any reason, please email your request to prayer@christchurchlancaster.org.uk or text the Prayer Chain on 07980 351855. Please ask the person's permission if you'd like them included in the weekly notices.

In Other News...



The Olive Branch Foodbank

The Foodbank continues to be in great need of tins of fish, meat, vegetables and fruit. Also biscuits, crisps, multipacks of cake, cereal, jam, pasta sauce; packs of hot chocolate, coffee, tea, sugar, cordial, longlife juice, and many types of toiletries (shampoo, shower gel, toilet rolls, etc.) Or you can give money for them to buy what is needed: <https://www.the-olivebranch.org.uk/donate/>

Eco-Group Thought/Action for the Week



Today we give thanks to God for nature and the food from the harvest. The old English word *Haerfest* means to reap, gather and store what has been grown and we think of our farmers who work hard to do this. Give them your support and be prepared to pay a fair price for their work.

Recycling at Christ Church - from the Eco Group

On the first Sunday of the month, we collect plastic toothbrushes and electric brush heads, covers and flosser nozzles, also flossing sticks, interdental brushes and dental tape containers. We can still take medical blister packs, but owing to the large quantities, please take your own to Superdrug if you can. **No bottle tops please.**

Confirmations

Would you like to take a next step in faith? Would you like to start receiving communion? On the 24th November, Bishop Jill will be with us for a Confirmation Service at 10.30am. If you'd like to be Confirmed (and/or Baptised) as part of this special occasion, or are curious, please have a chat with Rev'd Kaarina (or email Rev'd Carol to arrange a convenient time to talk to her). Confirmation Group starts on Saturday 12th October, 5pm - 6pm, in church, for 6 weeks. Suitable for adults of any age, and for children in Year 6 and above.



Ripley Supplementary Forms

If your child is applying for Ripley St Thomas School this year, please call in to Office Hour (between 9.15 and 10am each Sunday morning before the 31st October). As Rev'd Carol remains on crutches, if it is impossible for you to come to Office Hour, please contact her by email in the first instance, to make alternative arrangements.

Giggle (or Groan) of the week - suggestions welcome!

A lady was extremely nervous about her appointment with the dentist that morning. Before leaving home, she sought courage by reading the text for the day from her Bible calendar. It was Psalm 81, verse 10, the second part of which reads: Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.
(NRSV)

Scripture Readings for our Worship today:



Joel 2.21-27

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

*This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 126

*Refrain: **The Lord has indeed done great things for us.***

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy.

3 Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

4 The Lord has indeed done great things for us, and therefore we rejoiced.

*Refrain: **The Lord has indeed done great things for us.***

5 Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, as the river beds of the desert.

6 Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed, will come back with shouts of joy, bearing their sheaves with them.

*Refrain: **The Lord has indeed done great things for us.***

I Timothy 6.6-10

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

*This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew 6.25-33***
Glory to you, O Lord.

‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, “What will we eat?” or “What will we drink?” or “What will we wear?” For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord **Praise to you, O Christ.***

Prayer after Communion:



Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom. By your grace, plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Community at Christ Church:

Apple Festival and Harvest Home Weekend

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped support our Apple Festival, Quiz Night and Harvest Festival. It has been great to welcome a team of people from the Diocese of Blackburn to share this with us too.

Within the week, other events have also been happening:

- Harvest Assemblies with Y9 and Y13 at LRGS
- A discussion group on gender and sexuality with Y13 RE pupils at LRGS
- Bishop Philip came to bless the decarbonisation work at Christ Church Primary School and share in Friday Celebration Worship with all the pupils
- A small team including Rev'd Kaarina and Susan have led the Anglican Service at HMP Lancaster Farms on Sunday morning.
- We'd also hoped to visit the Livestock Mart where Rev'd Carol is Chaplain, but due to her injury this didn't work out.

If you are worshipping with us for the first time today, we especially hope you can join us again, do pick up a card with more details about Christ Church, and chat to one of the team.

To go deeper in faith:

Confirmation Group starts Saturday 12th October 5pm-6pm in church for 6 weeks - see Rev'd Kaarina.

Look out for details of the *Being With* Course starting later this term.

Our next special events will be:

All Saints Festival Service on the 3rd November at 10.30am

Remembrance Sunday service on the 10th November at 10.30am

Christ Church Choir

..... sings at the 10.30 service about once a month, plus other special occasions, and practises in church on Thursdays, 7-8:15 pm. New members always welcome; if you're not sure, come along and give it a try for a few weeks! Have a word with Clive or contact him via cliveshaw54@gmail.com



Craft Group

.... meets on the second Tuesday (and sometimes others!) of each month at 11.30am in the Hall. Everyone welcome - bring your own project, or share in one of the others on the go! No prior experience needed. The next meeting is on 9th October.

Book Group

The church book group next meets on the 4th October, and then on the first Friday of each month at 4 pm in the church hall. Books are provided. Anyone who enjoys reading and discussion is very welcome to join us. You can just turn up on the day, speak to Joyce, or send an email to joycelynch1946@gmail.com



Supporting Christ Church

Supporting Christ Church - One-Off Gifts

If you would like to make a one-off donation to the church as an offering, to pay a fee, or as a gift to regular funds, you can give through our 'Give a little' page: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/f63a0655-b270-4d05-bf35-3994747785d0> This will also give you the option to Gift Aid your donation (if you pay tax in the UK), enabling the church to get an extra 25p back from the taxman for every £1 you give.



Supporting Christ Church - Regularly

Christ Church is now taking part in the Parish Giving Scheme, which enables you to give regularly by Direct Debit, and to easily review how much you give depending on circumstances. Online at www.parishgiving.org.uk Or by telephone 0333 002 1271 Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. For any of these methods our PGS code 030603240 ensures that your gift goes to our church.

PCC

... met on the 9th September. We discussed the churchyard trees, the mission weekend, finance, and the Choir Church project with our school.

We ask you to pray this prayer 'this time tomorrow' after a Sunday service - wherever you are. (Why not put a reminder in your phone?)

Lord God, Together with you by our side, we can bring growth to our Church. Send your Holy Spirit to give us good planning, wise actions, joy in worship and our welcome, the right words when we speak to others. Help our Church grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you, and in service to our local community, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sponsor a Hymn

If you'd like to suggest and sponsor a hymn to be sung within the 10.30am Eucharist, please fill in one of the blue forms from the noticeboard.



Thought for the Week

When I look back on all these worries, I remember the story of the old man who said on his death-bed that he had had a lot of trouble in his life - most of which had never happened.

Sir Winston Churchill

Hall for Hire - Don't forget that the Hall is available for hire, especially during the day and at weekends. £24/first hour and £12 for each subsequent hour/part-hour. Please contact Pat on hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk 07980 351855 for more info.

Key contacts:

Vicar: Rev'd Carol Backhouse 01524 942105
revcarolbackhouse@gmail.com

Curate:Rev'd Kaarina Leong 07749 489623
curate@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Priest with PTO and Choir Contact:Rev'd Clive Shaw
cliveshaw54@gmail.com

Lay Reader:.....Dr Pat Allen 01524 39552
reader@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Notices:Ms Jacqueline Stamper 01524 64083
churchwarden@christchurchlancaster.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Emma Muckalt & Ms Debbie Steele
safeguarding@christchurchlancaster.org 07547 717060

Parish Secretary:Mrs Julie Buckley
buckleys@live.co.uk 01524 37229

Hall Bookings:.....hall@christchurchlancaster.org.uk 07980 351855

Christ Church SchoolMiss Emma Simpson 01524 60955

If you'd like to keep in touch with Christ Church news, events, services and prayer requests, please complete one of the contact cards in the pews and return to Rev'd Carol

Promoting a Safer Church

If you believe that someone is at risk of immediate harm please call emergency services on 999. Any safeguarding concerns in a parish should be brought to the attention of your Parish Safeguarding Officers, Debbie Steele and Emma Muckalt, who can be contacted as above. Concerns can also be raised directly with our Diocesan Team, Tel: 01254 503088 or email safeguarding@blackburn.anglican.org

Gardening- first Friday of every month

Our gardening group meet next on Friday 4th October between 12 and 2pm. Please bring gloves and secateurs if you can - and contact Liz Mills if you'd like details.

Children's Church

... is an important part of our church life, and one of the ways children learn more about Christian faith. We're looking for helpers for Children's Church for the new term. If you can offer one Sunday morning each a month (or more if possible) please have a word with Rev'd Carol. An Enhanced DBS check will be arranged.

Godly Play! 4pm on the third Sunday of each month (20th October)

Godly Play shares Scripture stories with children, and helping them wonder about faith, using a Montessori approach, with crafts and a snack to share too. It's free, and especially suitable for primary age children (accompanied by an adult please). Everyone welcome!

Harvest Home - Food Collection.

As part of our Harvest services this Sunday, we'll be taking a collection of the following items to support the work of Lancaster Homeless Action - more information here: www.ldhas.org.uk or give via the QR code. Items needed: Long life milk, Coffee, Baked beans, Tinned veg, Ketchup, Brown sauce, Cooking Oil, Peanut Butter, Cereals, Porridge

